

**From:** [L.A. Business Journal](#)  
**To:** [Kent Smith](#)  
**Subject:** Afternoon Report: St. Joseph, Providence Health in Talks to Merge | Friday Rundown: What to Watch  
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**[St. Joseph, Operator of L.A. Hospitals, in Talks to Merge](#)**

St. Joseph Health System and Providence Health & Services, which has extensive operations in Los Angeles County, have announced they are planning an affiliation to create a single health care entity. Terms of the pending agreement are still being shaped.

Posted: 7/31/2015

**[Friday Rundown: What to Watch this Weekend](#)**

For the business professional looking for the perfect movie to watch this weekend, here's our summary of some latest releases, focusing on the business aspects of each plot.

Posted: 7/31/2015

**[From our upcoming edition:](#)**

**[Taste Test](#)**

They're sweet, they're cold and they have roots in Japan. So why are Mochi ice-cream balls being marketed by a veteran of the tortilla wars?

Mikawaya, the Vernon company that created Mochi a generation ago, has tapped a former executive from Mission Foods to oversee a national expansion of the product. Broadening the market reach of Mochi, balls of ice cream wrapped in slightly sticky rice flour, is seen as a key to the century-old Mikawaya's long-term future.

Posted: 7/31/2015

**[Nova Lifestyle, Skechers Among This Week's Movers](#)**

The Los Angeles Business Journal's index of the largest local public companies was up for the week. The weighted LABJ index rose 4 percent to close at 246, with gainers outpacing losers 95 to 55. Six companies closed the week unchanged.

Posted: 7/31/2015

**[Stocks Fall](#)**

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 56 points in Friday trading to close at 17,690. The S&P 500 fell five points to 2,104. The Nasdaq fell one point to 5,128. The LABJ Stock Index rose two points to 246.

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